



Department of City Development
News Release

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Healthy Neighborhood Grants Available Neighborhoods Invited To Apply For Block Projects

Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and the Common Council today invited neighborhood groups located outside the Community Development Block Grant areas to brainstorm on small improvement projects and consider applying for a 'Healthy Neighborhoods' grant to help make the project possible.

Funds up to \$2,000 per project are available for such proposals as turning a small vacant lot into a neighborhood 'pocket' park. The grant could also be applied towards the purchase of neighborhood banner displays, front yard landscaping initiatives and more. The grants require matching dollar per dollar, either through matching cash contributions, donated goods, and/or professional services.

"The goal of these projects is to bring residents together to build stronger neighborhoods," said Mayor Tom Barrett. "Either through the planting of a community garden or the placing of a decorative gateway, it's small projects like these that make our neighborhoods distinctive and a desirable place to live."

Ald. Michael J. Murphy, a key proponent of the Healthy Neighborhoods initiative, said the project enables neighbors to connect and collaborate while making their neighborhood a more attractive place to call home.

"This is a truly empowering project that can enhance the quality of life in a neighborhood and make residents feel proud about where they live," said Ald. Murphy.

The Milwaukee Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative is a collaboration between the City of Milwaukee and the Greater Milwaukee Foundation to improve and sustain neighborhoods. The program encourages residents to forge strong connections to their neighborhoods and to work to improve or sustain neighborhood assets.

Neighborhood groups interested in applying for the Healthy Neighborhood Grants should contact Dave Weber, of the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation at 286-5626. For more information on the Healthy Neighborhood Initiative, visit www.mkedcd.org

The Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation, affiliated with the Department of City Development, operates programs that target public resources into building stronger neighborhoods through loans, grants and community-building projects. Visit its new and improved website at: www.mkedcd.org/housing/nidc